



Tapuitema

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Tuesday
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Oversight Committee for Samoa Talks prepare for Sept. 21 meeting in Apia

(UTULEI) - The Oversight Committee of the Samoa Talks --the annual meeting of the American Samoa and Samoa governments-- met at the Office of the Governor on Thursday, September 13th for discussions on preparation for the meeting of the Two Samoas.

In attendance at the committee meeting for American Samoa were Attorney General Fepulea'i Afa Ripley Jr., Governor's Chief Legal Counsel Toetasi Fua Tuiteleapaga, Commerce Deputy Director Lelei Peau and Commerce Planner Lupe Aumavae. The committee reviewed the record of outcomes from the 2006 meeting, hosted by American Samoa, as well as prioritized preliminary issues that will be discussed at the upcoming meeting in Apia on Friday, September 21st and Saturday, September 22nd.

Governor Togiola Tulafono has asked all department, agency and office heads to cooperate in the preparation for the meeting with Samoa.

"It is important that we work together with Samoa to achieve the overarching goal of bettering the global plight of our respective governments through cooperation and coordination," said Gov. Togiola. "I am very confident that through this forum we can all make our contribution to the betterment of life for all citizens of American Samoa and the Independent State of Samoa."

Members of the Oversight Committee from Samoa were: Aumua Ming Leung Wai - Attorney General, Aiono Mose Pouvi Sua - Chief Executive Officer Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Ausegaefa Va'asatia Poloma Komiti - Chief Executive Office Ministry of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and Cam Wendt - Manager Public Sector Improve Facility.

Samoa Talks was originally scheduled for June 29 & 30 and was postponed due to scheduling conflict for both governments.

Governor Togiola will lead the American Samoa delegation and depart for Samoa on Thursday, September 20th.

Gov. Togiola joins nation in remembrance of 9/11 as Patriot Day

(UTULEI) - Governor Togiola Tulafono proclaimed September 11, 2007 as Patriot Day in the Territory of American Samoa.

Pursuant to Executive Proclamation signed by the President of the United States of America, George W. Bush, on September 5, 2007, all flags in the Territory shall be flown at half-mast on September 11, 2007.

Several thousands of lives were lost on this day in 2001, including brave rescue personnel, innocent victims and ordinary citizens who risked their lives to save others.

In the aftermath of the attacks, Americans from all over the world, including the Territories, lent their resources, prayers and support for the rescue and recovery efforts that ensued.

Since 2001, the U.S. and its territories have dedicated themselves to solid efforts at ensuring that such a destructive and senseless event should never happen again anywhere the U.S. flag flies.

It is in the spirit of honoring the memories of the victims and heroes who lost their lives on September 11, 2001; honoring the commitment of Americans all over the world who pull together in times of great need; and honoring our dedication to protect our country from future attack, that flags within the Territory shall be lowered.

All appropriate ceremonies, activities and remembrance services should be observed as well as a moment of silence in honor of the lives lost as a result of the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 at 8:46am.

Task Force drafts ASG Travel and Transportation Policy Manual

The new Travel Regulations Task Force created by order of Governor Togiola Tulafono to look into ASG travel regulations has drafted the ASG Travel and Transportation Policy Manual, set to tentatively take effect on October 1, 2007.

Members of the Task Force are Attorney General Fepulea'i Afa Ripley, the Governor's Chief Legal Counsel Toetasi Tuiteleapaga, ASG Comptroller Brian Mix, Chief Procurement Officer Seui Laau, Budget and Planning Director Magalei Logovi'i, the Governor's Senior Policy Advisor Oreta Togafau, and ASG Treasurer Velega Savali who has been appointed to serve as chairman of the newly formed group.

It was Velega, with the assistance of ASG comptroller Brian Mix, who is also a Task Force member, who compiled and prepared the new manual. The purpose of the manual is to "prescribe, amend, and consolidate general policies and procedures relating to travel and transportation of employees essential to the transaction of official business of the American Samoa Government."

Those covered by the policies and procedures contained in the manual include all officials and employees of the ASG, except as otherwise limited by law, and certain individuals - not employees - who are authorized to travel at government expense, as well as employees of all organizations created by executive or statutory authority.

The manual discusses travel authorization, which must be made by the Governor's Office or by authority of whomever is delegated at the Governor's discretion. According to the manual, the ASG Request for Travel form (TA), as amended, "shall be used to request travel and authorize the same. The TA form shall be used to amend a TA when it becomes necessary to do so, and the person named on the travel must make the travel. If a substitution becomes necessary, a new TA must be initiated, and any travel must be within budgetary limitations at the time the TA is approved."

All travel expense reports must be approved by the authorized signatory agent for the applicable department's expenditures, and travel reports for the department directors or office directors must be approved by the Governor and Treasurer. All travel expense reports must be accompanied with a copy of any airline tickets, the boarding pass, lodging receipts, and land travel receipts, provided all are considered allowable costs. Travel expenses reports must contain a brief itinerary of the trip, event, and activities relative to the travel, supporting expense receipts, used airline tickers, and any unused airline tickets must accompany the expense report. Meal expenses are not reportable, unless otherwise required. All travel expense reports must be filed with the Treasury Department's Travel Office within 30 days after the completion of travel. If the traveler fails to file an expense report within the required reporting period, the traveler will be denied future travel until the expense report is filed. A notice of warning will be issued to the traveler that compensation may be withheld if the travel expense report and actual receipts are not filed within the next 30 days. If the traveler does not file an expense report within 60 days of completion of travel, he/she may have their paycheck held until the said expense report is filed.

Once the expense report is filed and a determination is made by the Treasurer that funds are due the traveler, the Travel Office will process a reimbursement to the traveler. On the contrary, if the expense report reveals that funds are due to the government, the traveler must immediately make arrangements with the Travel Office to reimburse the government, otherwise the employee's paycheck will be held until satisfactory arrangements have been made.

Per diem are advanced to the traveler in lieu of subsistence expenses which include all charges for meals, incidental expenses, and lodging. Full per diem allowances are payable in advance before the commencement of the trip to prevent financial hardship on the traveler, says the manual. Rates vary depending on the destination. For travel within the Continental United States, rates are based on the Federal Travel Regulation (FTR) as prescribed by the US General Services Administration. For travel in Alaska, Hawaii, and possessions of the United States, rates are based on the US Department of Defense Per Diem Bulletin, as amended. For foreign travel, rates are based on the US Department of State publication Maximum Travel Per Diem for Foreign Areas, as amended. The rate for travel between Tutuila, the Manu'a Island group, and Swains Island will be advanced \$40 per day. Other expenses specified in the manual include meals and incidental charges, transportation, laundry, telecommunication services, excess baggage, rental cars, trip cancellation, illness, injury, or personal emergency, entertainment, and actual expense allowance (AEA).

Section 5 of the manual pinpoints off island travel for medical care as there are times when it is necessary that residents of American Samoa and government contract employees be evacuated from the territory because of a medical condition which cannot be treated by local resources. In such cases, the patient, and the authorized patient escort who is a relative of the patient, are entitled to air transportation only. The medical escort, who is an ASG employee, is entitled to the same per diem and other reimbursement as any other employee on official government business. The decision to evacuate is made by the Governor based on applicable criteria.

Students on government scholarships are also addressed in the manual, as they are entitled to transportation costs (return airfare) and shipping costs for personal effects and professional books to American Samoa. TA's for returning graduates should include the household goods allowance of \$500.

The travel and transportation policy shall be effective for all travel occurring after October 1, 2007 and shall be in full force until amended. *(Continued on page 8)*

Immigration issue hits the Fono

The lower chamber of the Fono has unanimously passed a bill sponsored by nine of its members, calling for a "coordinated implementation of the territory's immigration laws by governmental departments and agencies on the social, economic, law enforcement, and cultural impact and consequences of the territory's immigration policies, practices and procedures."

The proposed legislation requires the Attorney General's Office to provide, among other things, an annual list of foreign nationals that control corporations holding business licenses in the territory; a summary of all foreign national deportation cases conducted by the Immigration Board and any foreign national exclusion or voluntary departure cases; and a summary detailing the total number of aliens, their nationalities, and their immigration status in the territory. Furthermore, the bill also calls for the AG's Office to provide a summary of the number of birth certificates recorded by the Office of Vital Statistics, for cases where only a single parent is identified or declared. A summary on the number of those birth certificates where both parents are foreign nationals must also be submitted. In addition to concerns raised by the House, the Senate has submitted its own proposed legislation, penalizing sponsors of foreign nationals who are overstayers.

This particular bill has been assigned to Rep. Vaito'a Hans Langkilde, chairman of the House Government Operations Committee.

The bill states that individual sponsors or a person eligible to sponsor an alien will be charged \$10 per day for every day the alien is here illegally. The fine is \$50 per day for corporations or business sponsors. The sponsor, either individual or business, has 30 working days from the date the penalties are assessed, to pay the fine. If payment is not made within the 60 working days, the sponsor will be prohibited from sponsoring any foreign national for five years.

Fono overruns budget, all payments stopped

Members of the Senate and House of Representatives were not happy on Wednesday, September 12 after they went home without their usual bi-weekly office allowance checks. Holding allowance checks and all payments to the Fono is the result of a decision made by the Treasury Department to control the overspending at the local Legislature.

Treasury Department officials explained that all payments for the Fono have been stopped, as they have overrun their budget by more than \$150,000 although the current fiscal year does not end until September 30. Stop payments apply to all Fono invoices, and possibly next Monday's payroll, until enough funds can be located to help cover the expenses.

The overrun can be blamed on excess spending listed under "other expenses" which are not budgeted for, totaling \$76,478. This doesn't include the nearly \$80,000 spent on repairs for the Fono Samoan Guest Fale - a good percentage of which was paid out to three senators and a faipule.

At the beginning of this month, the Fono had already expended its FY07 budget of \$6,042,000. Spending was listed at \$6,175,277.17 as of last week.

And with encumbrances (commitments) of \$17,199.60 the total deficit so far for the Fono is approximately \$150,476.77. Notable spending comes from the Senate which overspent its payroll budget by \$14,493 and the Legislative Reference Bureau with \$13,413. All expenses combined, the Senate is in the hole \$34,096 while the House of Representatives isn't far behind with \$23,509. The lower chamber has spent the most in unbudgeted "other expenses" with \$27,517. Other Fono divisions like the Legislative Reference Bureau, which started off with a working budget of \$823,000, has overspent by \$10,087 while the Legislative Finance Office, budgeted for \$797,372 in FY07, is currently in the red by \$6,336. Two budgeted areas that are in the black include the Senate Investigative Committee and the APIL account.

Treasury officials say that the only way to lift the stop is by order of Governor Togiola Tulafono who is reportedly backing up the Treasury Department's decision.

Notice from the Department of Youth & Women's Affairs

The Department of Youth and Women's Affairs offers weekly open ended group sessions on every Wednesday at 11:30a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the department office on the 3rd floor of the EOB office building, next to the Army Reserves's office. This service is offered for employees needing assistance in problem solving and development in order to them with everyday challenges impacting their work performances. Topics include: 1. Work Ethics, principles, and standards for better work performance and productivity; 2. Team building for good working relationships and a healthy working atmosphere; 3. Customer service skills; 4. Parenting skills; 5. Stress management, etc., etc.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Leuga A. Turner at 633-2835 or 633-2836.

SHARE IMPORTANT INFORMATION & ACTIVITIES

with your ASG workforce as well as the citizens of American Samoa. Email your articles, announcements, pictures or other information to: Harry Stevens (harry.stevens@americansamoa.gov or vince.iuli@americansamoa.gov)

ASG RADIO PROGRAM

With: Governor Togiola Tulafono
Saturdays @ 7a.m.

On: Showers of Blessings - FM 104.7
Call 699-8123 or 699-8124

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**PACIFIC BASIN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (PBDC) SENIOR FELLOWS PROGRAM****Duration:** 3-months (60-work days or 480-hours)**Location:** PBDC Office (Honolulu, Hawaii)**Pacific Basin Development Council****711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1075, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5214****ph. (808) 596-7229 - fax (808) 596-7249 - email: pbdc@elele.peacesat.hawaii.edu****Position:** Senior program or technical position in the sponsoring government and 7 years of planning experience.**Minimum Qualifications:**

- **Education:** Bachelor's degree from a recognized college or university. A Master's degree in economic development, regional planning, or public / business administration may be substituted for up to 2 years of required experience.
- **Skills:** A demonstrated ability to write effectively and to work well with others are required.
- **Work Experience** in PBDC member Islands or extensive background in the region are preferred.

Selection Process:

- **Application:** Each candidate shall submit a resume, one policy paper (10-15 pages), and two letters of recommendation (of which one shall be from a current supervisor).
- **Recruitment & Nomination:** The sponsoring government shall recruit candidates for this program, select three nominees, and submit the appropriate documentation to PBDC.
- **Selection:** The PBDC Executive Director shall make the final selection of the Fellow and notify the sponsoring government of the selection with an anticipated Fellow period.
- **Contract:** The Fellow and PBDC shall execute a Memorandum of Understanding prior to the Fellow period. (See also special condition under PBDC cost allocation.)

Responsibilities:

- **Develops and completes a special project**, approved by the Executive Director, related to the sponsoring government with regional applicability.
- **Monitors and analyzes key policy issues** and provides technical assistance related to economic development under supervision of the Executive Director. Typical tasks are:
 - Monitors, analyzes, and supports development of PBDC policy documents related to Federal laws, rules, and other initiatives.
 - Identifies, compiles, and analyzes information related to key policy issues in such technical areas as assigned by the Executive Director.
 - Provides technical assistance and informal consultations to individual PBDC members and Islands agencies.
 - Implements special projects and performs other related duties as may be required.

Cost Allocation: **Sponsoring government** shall be responsible for providing airfare for the selected Fellow in addition to normal wages and other compensation.**PBDC** shall assume lodging expenses not to exceed 90-days for the selected Fellow. This full amount shall be repaid to PBDC if this Fellow leaves government service prior to the second anniversary of the conclusion of the Fellowship.**Optional:** Certain travel expenses, as appropriate, for the selected Fellow during the term of the Fellowship may be assumed by PBDC or the sponsoring government.**Senate passes bill that amends sentences for drug offenses**

Before they broke for recess on August 31, the Senate passed, in its third reading, a bill that provides new sentencing guidelines for the possession of a controlled substance, including drug rehabilitation and treatment programs. For years, American Samoa has been known to have perhaps the most harsh punishment for drug offenses. Currently, the law states that a person who is in possession of a controlled substance is guilty of a felony that is punishable by a fine of not less than \$5,000 or more than \$20,000, and between five to ten years in prison, or both, for the first offense. For the second offense, a person is slapped with a fine of not less than \$20,000 or more than \$30,000, and a jail term between ten and twenty years, or both. For the third offense, a person can be fined between \$30,000 - \$40,000 and get a prison term of not less than 15 years and not more than 30 years behind bars, or both. But with the new Senate bill, the punishment for a first offense will be a fine of not more than \$5,000 and/or a prison term not to exceed five years. Furthermore, for the second offense, the Senate bill says that a person can receive a fine of between \$5,000 and \$10,000 and/or a jail term not to exceed ten years. For a third offense, the bill says that a fine of \$10,000 up to \$40,000 can be imposed, and/or a prison term of not less than 5 years and not more than 20 years.

DOH takes dengue fever awareness on the road, cases reach 103

As of Friday, September 7, the number of confirmed dengue fever cases had reached 103 so far this year, yet there still hasn't been an official announcement as to whether or not the communicable disease has claimed any lives.

The continuous increase in the number of confirmed cases has sparked panic amongst local residents, many of whom remember the last dengue fever epidemic which struck the territory in 2001-2002, which affected 1778 locals and killed three people. According to Department of Health officials, the current trend of increase is consistent with numbers associated with an epidemic, and the best way to prevent the spread of the disease is by protecting one's self and controlling the mosquito population. There is no vaccine for dengue fever, which is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito commonly found in the territory.

In response to the alarming increase in the number of confirmed cases, DOH medical director Dr. Ivan Tuliau has decided to promote awareness within the local community by offering power point presentations at different venues across the island including the Territorial Administration on Aging (TAOA) and the Tafuna High School campus. All members of the community are invited to attend the informative sessions - the next of which will be held at Tafuna High School on Saturday, Sept. 15 - aimed at educating everyone about the disease and ways to prevent it. The presentations are made possible through collaborative efforts between DOH, the Territorial Emergency Management Coordinating Office (TEMCO), and the Office of Samoan Affairs.

The best way to prevent the spread of the disease is by ridding our surroundings of the most common breeding ground for mosquitoes which are: tires, drums, buckets, old appliances, ice cream containers, folded plastic, tin cans, plastic, styrofoam, and plastic bags. "If everyone does their part in getting rid of these things and anything else that can hold standing water, mosquito breeding will be limited and the spread of dengue fever will be drastically reduced," Tuliau said.

Gov. Togiola submits to the Fono a reprogram of funds bill

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono today submitted to the Fono important legislation which authorizes the reprogramming of appropriated revenues in order to fund specific operations of the American Samoa Government.

In a letter to the Fono leadership, Governor Togiola said budget estimates show that certain Executive agencies are projected to have enough unexpended, unobligated revenue in order to cover overruns incurred at the Legislature as well as the Executive Office. Governor Togiola said the legislative proposal purports to reprogram these estimated amounts accordingly.

The proposed measure requests legislative authorization to reprogram a combined \$578,500 from six departments to be utilized by the Legislature and the Executive Office.

Proposed Reprogramming Bill:

An act reprogramming \$578,500 from unexpended and unobligated revenues of certain executive agencies and special program in order to provide specific funding for the legislature and the executive office and providing for an early effective date.

Preamble:

Due to the urgent need to provide adequate funding for government operations, this act shall be effective immediately upon passage by the Legislature and approval by the Governor.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF AMERICAN SAMOA:

Section 1. Legislative authorization to reprogram.

The unexpended and unobligated appropriated balances of the following listed locally funded Executive agencies are reprogrammed as follows:

<u>From</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Department of Education	\$215,000
Department of Public Health	\$ 50,000
Department of Port Administration	\$ 80,000
Department of Public Safety	\$118,000
Department of Legal Affairs	\$ 30,000
Special Program – Summer Youth Program	\$ 85,000

Total amount available for Reprogramming

\$578,500

(Continued on page 6)

Reprogram of funds bill *(from page 5)*

The Director of Program Planning and Budget Development is authorized to apply the above amount of \$578,500.00 for the following purposes and items specified:

<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Legislature	
Current overrun	\$ 58,602
Pay periods 25 & 26 including expense allowance	\$405,398
Executive Office	\$114,500
Total amount reprogrammed	\$578,500

Section 2. Remaining Funds.

Any funds remaining unexpended at the end of Fiscal Year 2008 must revert to the general fund and may not be spent without subsequent appropriation.

Section 3. Effective Date.

Due to the urgent need to assist in providing adequate funding for government operations, this act shall be effective immediately upon passage by the Legislature and approval by the Governor.

Statement from Gov. Togiola on Lt. Gov. Ipulasi case in Hawaii

(UTULEI) – Governor Togiola Tulafono issued the following statement regarding Lieutenant Governor Ipulasi Aitofele Sunia's departure from the Territory on Saturday, September 8th:

STATEMENT: I promised our territory in March 2005 that if there are any investigative conclusions that may affect the Executive Office or the Administration from the inquiries conducted by the federal government, I would come back to inform you.

On Saturday, September 8, 2007, federal agents accompanied the Lieutenant Governor to the State of Hawaii to make his initial appearance before a federal court. Before his departure from American Samoa, the Lieutenant Governor called me personally, while I was still in Hawaii, to inform me of his situation, and the plan for his departure from the territory. The Lieutenant Governor also indicated to me that he was being treated respectfully and with due care by agents of the FBI. He was allowed to inform immediate family members and relatives, and to turn himself in voluntarily before flying out on Saturday morning. I appreciate very much the federal government's sensitivity towards the feelings of our people and our culture.

What has happened to our elected Lieutenant Governor affects all of us living together on a small island, where we are all known to each other.

We must be straightforward and accept that if the charging authorities prove to be right, we as a society cannot condone such actions.

We are a society, and a culture, that has the maturity to wait, and to wait calmly without rushing to blame, until the matter has been well judged in the Courts.

In the past, other elected state leaders have been indicted and charged while in office. We are not the first people who have had to carry on while someone in their elected leadership undergoes a trial for alleged wrongdoing. This is what we also will do. We will carry on, and pray that our judicial system will render a fair and just verdict.

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorensen, Historian, Office of the Governor

On September 13, 1902, David Starr Jordan, President of Stanford University, wrote to President Theodore Roosevelt about his recent visit to Samoa. He commented on former Naval Station Commandant Benjamin Tilley's court martial and acquittal (November 9-12, 1901) by saying that "The virulent attack on Captain Tilley, justified by no facts of importance so far as I could find out, was largely the work of local gossips, set going by traders. Captain Tilley seems to have handled Tutuila with great wisdom."

On September 13, 1977, the United States Department of the Interior Secretary's Order No. 3009: "Provision for Elected Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and Creation of Office of Government Comptroller" was promulgated.

On September 15, 1887, Captain Eugen Brandeis, a German officer, forced Malietoa Laupepa and other chiefs to sign a document declaring Tui A'ana Tupua Tamasese Titimaea as "King of Samoa."

On September 15, 1902, the Navy Department informed Captain Uriel Sebree, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, that the Department saw no need to approve any regulations promulgated for American Samoa, "preferring to indicate such as need amendment." Thus Sebree, like Tilley before him, had a great deal of freedom for lawmaking.

On September 15, 1928, Father Eduard Bellwald, S.M. reported that construction work had begun on the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Lepua, American Samoa. Master builder Fepulea'i Ned Ripley of Leone agreed to build the Church for \$2,600.

On September 17, 1903, vaccinations were made compulsory in American Samoa.

On September 17, 1930, USS *Omaha*, carrying the American members of the American Samoan Commission, arrived in Honolulu at 8:00 a.m.

On September 18, 1931, following the recommendation of the American Samoan Commission, the position of Secretary of Native Affairs in the American Samoa Government was split up. The Office of the Attorney General absorbed the Secretary's duties, and a naval officer was appointed to that position. A civilian Chief Justice was appointed by the Secretary of the Navy to administer the Judicial Department.

Employment Opportunity

Museum of American Samoa

Position Title: Museum Curator
 Reports to: Museum Board of Trustees
 Pay Range: \$35,000 - \$55,000 (plus benefits) depending on qualifications
 Benefits: 1 year (local hire) contract: includes 4 hours sick and annual leave per bi-weekly pay period, paid government holidays.
2 year (non-local hire) contract: includes 4 hours sick and 8 hours annual leave per bi-weekly pay period, paid government holidays, monthly housing allowance and relocation package, and access to low-cost government medical and dental facility.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Education: Hold a Master's Degree in Museum Studies or related field, with coursework in museum studies.
- Experience: The successful candidate will have at least three years experience in the acquisition, preservation, and interpretive display of historic materials in addition to:
 1. Experience with cataloging and description of artifacts using computer databases, planning educational and outreach programs, and working collaboratively with individuals and organizations.
 2. Familiar with office machines and computers including but not limited to database software, digital imaging, scanning technology, and website construction.
 3. Knowledge of business administration, public relations, marketing, fundraising, and copyright regulations.

Required Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities:

The successful candidate will possess detailed knowledge of the Polynesian Culture.

- Communication skills:
 1. Excellent written and oral communication skills
 2. Fluency in the English language
 3. Fluency in the Samoan language (preferred), or demonstrated capability and willingness to learn a foreign language
 4. Willingness and ability to deal with people in a courteous manner
- Physical Demands:

This job requires frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 50lbs. Other physical demands may include pushing or pulling, climbing stairs, stooping/kneeling, reaching, sitting for long periods of time, talking, hearing, seeing, and manual dexterity.

Description of Work:

This position has a full range of duties –from administrative and managerial to conservation and display of materials as well as planning and executing public outreach services.

During the first year in the position, the Museum Curator will work with the Board of Trustees and the staff of the Arts Council to inventory, evaluate, catalog, and relocate the museum collection to a new building. The Curator will plan new exhibits, programs, services, and present the proposed scheme to the Board for review. The curator will oversee all aspects of the establishment and day-to-day operations of the new museum site, including the supervision of all workers involved in with the relocation project.

While the relocation project is being completed, the Museum Curator will work with the Board of Trustees to develop mission and vision statements, establish policies and procedures manuals, long range planning, and securing funding.

Major Duties

- Develop displays that will contribute to the cultural, educational, and aesthetic understanding of the American Samoan traditions.
- Collaborate with other cultural and educational organizations in the territory and the region to develop, maintain, and improve the collections, services, and programs of the museum. Related activities will include the repatriation of Samoan artifacts from other locations.
- Establish and maintain a positive public image of the museum throughout the territory and the region. Establish and maintain website for the museum.
- Develop and implement an appropriate staffing plan and organizational chart commensurate with the anticipated growth of the museum's budget, facilities and programs.

Daily Duties:

- Supervise the day-to-day activities of the museum.
- Disseminate information on the museum's mission, programs, and services through local and regional media and interest groups.
- Collaborate with local and regional tourism organizations to increase visibility of the museum in the community.

Periodic Duties:

- Attend all meetings of the Board of Trustees, and represent the museum at other meetings as assigned.
- Produce monthly and quarterly reports for museum board and ASG Budget Office.
- Make presentations to clubs, organizations, and the general public on historical and cultural topics of interest that relate to the mission and vision of the museum.

To apply, send resume and cover letter to: Museum Board P.O. Box 997687 Pago Pago AS 96799

Or e-mail to: asmuseum@americansamoa.gov Deadline for applications: November 10, 2007

US Coral Reef Task Force Meeting Highlights

(UTULEI) - After four intensive days of workshops and meetings, the 18th meeting of the United States Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) came to a close on Thursday.

The USCRTF meets twice a year to provide members with a forum for coordinated planning and action to preserve and protect U.S. coral reefs among federal agencies, state and territorial governments, and nongovernmental partners. The theme of this Task Force meeting was Bridging Culture and Science for Conservation.

The week of meetings began with a workshop on translating traditional knowledge into management facilitated by Senator HC Pulefa'asisina Palauni Tuiasosopo. The workshop provided recommendations to the USCRTF on ways to support the integration of traditional knowledge into the management of U.S. coral reefs.

During the Task Force member updates on Thursday, Governor Togiola Tulafono affirmed the commitment of the American Samoa Government to do its share to address the adverse impacts of global warming and resulting climate change. Governor Tulafono has issued an Executive Order, which will result in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions produced by ASG.

The Executive Order covers the following:

- Requiring ASG vehicles have a minimum fuel efficiency rating of 20 MPG.
- Begin purchasing hybrid vehicles rate of 5% increasing to 50% by model year 2017.
- Prohibit the importation of vehicles more than 10 years old.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact florescent bulbs.
- ASG appliance and electronic purchases will have an USEPA Energy Star approval.
- Prohibit the importation of high phosphorous detergents, effective October 1, 2007.

The Task force voiced its full support for Governor Togiola's executive order on climate change and commended the governor's strong leadership in bringing the forward critical issues to better protect and manage coral reefs.

The co-chairs went further to commend the governor and American Samoa's recent announcements to further the protection of coral reef ecosystems and acting as a leader in coral reef conservation and management issues.

Governor Togiola announced on Thursday that the Territory's Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network strategy has been finalized and adopted. The MPA Network Strategy was developed to link American Samoa's MPA programs and agencies together to be more effective in protecting and managing the marine resources and aims to develop regional partnerships to better protect our coral reef ecosystem.

The goal of the MPA Network Strategy is to effectively coordinate existing and future MPAs to ensure the long-term health and sustainable use of the American Samoa's coral reef resources. Since the fishes and corals of our reef ecosystems in the Territory do not restrict themselves to political borders, Governor Togiola has stated that there is a need to look beyond the borders of American Samoa to truly protect and manage the territory's marine resources.

Starting this year, Governor Togiola intends to work together with the government and the people of independent Samoa, to develop a regional coral reef conservation initiative in order to achieve common goals and address shared concerns.

At the end of Wednesday afternoon's special session on "Conserving Coral Reef Ecosystems: A Regional Approach," DMWR director Ufagafa Ray Tulafono committed the department to begin the process of public hearings and consultations to protect all of the largest reef fish species in American Samoa, which includes all species of shark, Giant Trevally, Giant Groupers, Bumphead Parrotfish and Bumphead Wrasse. These are rare species that are at risk from exploitation.

Nikolao I. Pula, co-chair of USCRTF presented a check from the US Department of the Interior and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for more than \$300,000 supporting American Samoa's Coral Reef Initiative staff positions and projects

A number of people dedicated to the preservation and conservation of coral reefs received awards recognizing their efforts by the Task Force today.

Among them were Asterio Takesy, Executive Director of the Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Dr. Peter Craig of the National Park of American Samoa, Karolyn Braun former Marine Science Program Director at the American Samoa Community College, Lelei Peau, Deputy Director of the American Samoa Department of Commerce and Chair of the Coral Reef Advisory Group, Tavita Togia of the National Park of American Samoa, American Samoa Community member Ivona Ballard. The Governor's Coral Reef Advisory Group also received an award from the Task Force that was presented to the directors of its five member organizations.

Other US Coral Reef Task Force meeting highlights include a workshop on using the research and results of economic valuation of coastal resources to support management, a field trip to Sailele, one of DMWR's Community-based Fisheries Management sites and receptions each night hosted by the Governor, the U.S. Coast Guard, Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the American Samoa Department of Commerce, and the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources.

ASG Travel and Transportation Policy Manual *(from page 2)*

The Travel Regulations Task Force was created in order "to design, plan, and implement comprehensive travel regulations for the American Samoa Government." The goal of the Task Force is to research, investigate, and report to the Governor on recommendations for comprehensive travel policies and regulations for the American Samoa Government. The recommendations are to focus on measures designed to reduce travel costs to ASG, eliminate abuse attendant with the current system, and standardize government wide policies and regulations.